

## MINUTES – MAY 3, 2004

The Caswell County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at the Historic Courthouse in Yanceyville, North Carolina at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, May 3, 2004. Members present: Mel O. Battle, Chairman, Larry G. Hamlett, Vice-Chairman, Nathaniel Hall, Jack W. Hooper, Cathy W. Lucas, Kenneth D. Travis, and George W. Ward, Jr. Also present: Jeffrey H. Earp, County Manager, Robert V. Shaver, Jr., County Attorney, and Gordon Bendall representing The Caswell Messenger. Wanda P. Smith, Clerk to the Board, recorded the minutes.

### MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

Chairman Battle opened the meeting with a Moment of Silent Prayer.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Travis moved, seconded by Commissioner Hamlett to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

### APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Hamlett moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Chairman Battle noted that Budget Amendment No. 30 contained a large number of line item transfers and asked if this is because of end of the year adjustments to be made before June 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Earp clarified that this is correct.

Upon a vote of the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

The following items were included on the Consent Agenda:

- 1) Approval of Minutes of March 1, 2004 Meeting
- 2) Budget Amendment No. 34 - DSS
- 3) Budget Amendment No. 35
- 4) Budget Amendment No. 36 - Health

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Battle opened the floor for public comments.

Mr. Melvin Butler of the Cherry Grove community and Chairman of the Planning Board came before the Board and stated that at the Planning Board's meeting last week they received instructions from Mr. Mike Cusimano, County Planner, that the Board wanted them to take a look at coming up with a Zoning Ordinance for Caswell County. Mr. Butler added that in 1987 he, along with Mr. Conway Moorefield, Mr. Ryland Farmer, Ms. June Dailey and Mr. Jack Woods made an attempt to come up with a Zoning Plan for Caswell County. Mr. Butler stated that the first meeting with the public was very unpleasant and the decision was made by the Planning Board and Board of Commissioners not to go forward with it. Mr. Butler stated that at this time he thought they could be successful with developing a Plan that is for Caswell County, a plan that is made up by the people of Caswell County, for the majority of the people, the people who understand and who own land, and one that will be in the best interest of them. Mr. Butler added that this will be done by changing the strategies from what was done by the previous group that did the Land Use Plan. Mr. Butler stated that they are going to the people instead of people coming to them, such as going to Ruritan Clubs, community clubs, fire departments, and any place where people are having meetings and see what they want. Mr. Butler added that they plan to contact Mr. Richard Ducker of the Institute of Government, set up a meeting, and at that time will invite all of the Commissioners to come because they want to go into depth to learn the principles of zoning, and effects of zoning before they proceed. Mr. Butler stated that they wished to do this in a systematic manner and an educated manner and would like to have as many Commissioners available on all of the educational meetings they have so that they could learn the process together and move together for what is best for Caswell County. Mr. Butler noted that they do not want to copy any other county's Zoning Ordinance. Mr. Butler added that if they do it this way, he felt it would be successful. Upon questioning from Chairman Battle, Mr. Butler answered that he did not know how much time it would take to get the people to educate them on this, they wanted to move as fast as they could, but they did not want to overlook anything and risk missing anything or anyone. Commissioner Lucas stated that there was a Steering Committee in place that just spent two years working on a Land Use Plan for the County that included zoning and asked Mr. Butler if he was saying that this was a waste of time. Mr. Butler said he was not saying that this was a waste of time, but was saying that they are going to do it differently. Mr. Butler added that they are going to go to the people, rather than having the people come to them. Commissioner Lucas noted that meetings were held in communities throughout the county for this purpose. Mr. Butler stated that no one attended those meetings.

#### OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

Chairman Battle moved, seconded by Commissioner Hall to adopt the following Proclamation declaring the month of May, 2004, as **'OLDER AMERICANS MONTH'** in Caswell County. The motion carried unanimously.

**OLDER AMERICANS MONTH  
CASWELL COUNTY 2004**

**BY THE CASWELL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**A PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, the Caswell County Board of Commissioners is joining the Nation and the State of North Carolina in declaring May as Older Americans Month 2004; and

WHEREAS, May, 2004 marks the 41<sup>st</sup> year that a Presidential Proclamation has been issued to commemorate older Americans; and

WHEREAS, this year, Caswell County celebrates the valuable and inspirational contributions of its citizens age 60 and older, their families and their caregivers; and

WHEREAS, the number of seniors in North Carolina continues to grow such that by 2010, more than 1.7 million citizens will be age 60 and older; and

WHEREAS, the number of seniors age 60 and older in Caswell County is now 4,212 or 18 percent of the total population; and

WHEREAS, the **Aging Well, Living Well** theme of Older Americans Month spotlights the benefits of encouraging behaviors and habits that improve and prolong the lives of older adults as well as recognizes the many contributions that seniors make as volunteers, employees, caregivers, and community leaders; and

WHEREAS, May has traditionally been celebrated with tributes to older persons through ceremonies, events, fairs, and other activities; and

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Caswell County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim May, 2004 to be **“OLDER AMERICANS MONTH”** in Caswell County, and urge all citizens to pay special tribute to the older population, their families, and providers of aging services.

Adopted this the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2004.

S/ M. O. Battle

M. O. Battle, Chairman

Caswell County Board of Commissioners

Attest: S/Wanda P. Smith

Wanda P. Smith

Clerk to the Board

## HYCONEECHEE REGIONAL LIBRARY CONTRACT AGREEMENT RENEWAL

Ms. Brenda Stephens, Regional Librarian, Hyconeechee Regional Library, came before the Board and requested that it approve the renewal of the contract agreement between the Hyconeechee Regional Library and the counties of Caswell, Orange, and Person. Ms. Stephens stated that there is no change to the contract from what it has been in the past. Ms. Stephens noted that there may be additional funds appropriated from the State and each library system would receive approximately \$2,400. After discussion, Commissioner Hall moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward to approve the renewal of the Contract Agreement between the Hyconeechee Regional Library and the counties of Caswell, Orange, and Person as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

## PROPOSED 2004-2005 SECONDARY ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Chairman Battle moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis that the Board enter into a public hearing to receive comments on the proposed 2004-2005 Secondary Road Improvement Program for Caswell County. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Doug Galyon, Chairman, NC Board of Transportation, came before the Board and stated that he represents Caswell County on this Board. Mr. Galyon added that they are bringing before the Board tonight the proposed 2004-2005 Secondary Road Improvement Program for Caswell County in the amount of \$932, 398.61.

Mr. Mike Mills, NCDOT Division Engineer, presented and reviewed the following proposed 2004-2005 Secondary Road Improvement Program for Caswell County as recommended by the North Carolina Department of Transportation. Mr. Derek Dixon, NCDOT Highway Maintenance Engineer, was also present.

### **CASWELL COUNTY**

#### **PROPOSED 2004-2005 SECONDARY**

#### **ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

2004-2005 SECONDARY ALLOCATION (Anticipated) \$932,398.61

### **PAVING RURAL UNPAVED ROADS**

MAP NO.	PRIORITY NO.	SR NO.	NAME AND DESCRIPTION	LENGTH	ESTIMATED COST
1	N/A	TBA	Dixie/Dink Road from SR 1356 to Poole Road	0.80	\$200,000

2	7 R/W	1338	Anderson Road from SR 1353 to end of maintenance	1.50	\$300,000
3	37	1772	Brooks Road from SR 1771 to end of maintenance	0.40	\$ 80,000
4	38	1773	Wade Dead End from Orange County Line to end of maintenance	0.80	\$160,000
5	39	1733	John Lea Road from US 158 to end of maintenance	0.30	\$ 60,000
6	40	1776	Alma Willis Road from NC 62 to end of maintenance	0.40	\$ 30,000 (Partial Funding)
<b>Total Rural Road Paving</b>				<b>4.20</b>	<b>\$830,000</b>
Spot Safety Improvements					\$ 50,000
Contingency to be used for Cost Overruns, Minor Safety Improvements, Additions to System, Paving and Maintenance of Rural Fire Department Drives, and Property Owner Participation Paving.					\$52,395.61

Note: Project subject to availability of funding, right-of-way, and environmental and historical review. If right-of-way is not available on the above unpaved roads or if additional funds are allocated, other roads will be programmed in order of priority.

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Commissioner Ward asked when NCDOT anticipated starting on the Dixie/Dink Road. Mr. Mills answered that NCDOT is starting on it, they are surveying it, and trying to get the right-of-way. Mr. Mills noted that according to the last report, there is one person that has not signed the right-of-way yet.

Commissioner Lucas asked if Dixie/Dink Road will have to be paved before Poole Road. Mr. Mills answered that no, Dixie/Dink Road would not be done before Poole Road. Mr. Mills clarified that it is DOT's plan to construct and pave both roads at the same time.

Upon questioning from Chairman Battle, Mr. Mills stated that No. 40, SR 1776, Alma Willis Road, is only partially funded and should be completely funded by next year.

Commissioner Lucas referred to the paving of Anderson Road from SR 1353 to end of maintenance and asked if SR 1353 is Old US 29. Mr. Derek Dixon, Highway Maintenance Engineer, confirmed that SR 1353 is Old US 29. Commissioner Lucas stated that she has had a number of inquiries about the Property Owner Participation Program and asked if it is still proper procedure to refer this to the Planner. Mr. Mills answered that DOT does not get involved with roads that are non-system roads and this would be referred to the Planner. Mr. Mills added that if it is an existing dirt state-maintained road and the property owners wanted to accelerate the paving, DOT does have a program for this.

Mr. Gordon Bendall asked what the procedure would be to request reduction of the speed limit on Old NC 86 from the ABC Store to Providence. Mr. Mills answered that the normal process would be that the citizen would write him a letter and he would have the Traffic Engineer go out and look at this. Mr. Mills stated that it normally takes four to six weeks to conduct the investigation and review accident history, number of houses, traffic count, etc.

Chairman Battle questioned the status of activity on NC 86 from the stop light to the Shady Grove Road. Mr. Mills stated that DOT is widening the shoulders of the road by two feet on each side. Chairman Battle asked if there are any plans for the intersection of NC 86 and Park Springs Road. Mr. Mills answered that DOT plans to construct a turning lane at the intersection of NC 86 and Park Springs Road and also a turning lane at the Shady Grove Road. Chairman Battle informed Mr. Mills that another potential dangerous location is turning off of NC 86 onto the Landfill Road. Chairman Battle stated that another location that needs investigation is the intersection of Old NC 86 and New NC 86 because there have been several accidents there.

Mr. Carl Collins informed Mr. Mills that he has been notified that all of the rights-of-way have now been acquired for Dink Road and Poole Road.

There being no further comments, Chairman Battle declared the public hearing closed.

Commissioner Hall moved, seconded by Commissioner Hooper to adopt the following Resolution to approve the 2004-2005 Secondary Road Improvement Program as presented by the North Carolina Department of Transportation. The motion carried unanimously.

## **CASWELL COUNTY**

### **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Department of Transportation has identified all of the unpaved secondary roads in Caswell County; and

**WHEREAS,** the North Carolina Department of Transportation has established a priority point system to determine a rating method for paving of secondary roads; and

**WHEREAS,** the North Carolina Department of Transportation has completed its priority ratings of all unpaved secondary roads in Caswell County; and

**WHEREAS,** the North Carolina Department of Transportation has estimated its 2004-2005 Secondary Road Allocation to be \$932,398.61; and

**WHEREAS,** the North Carolina Department of Transportation has presented its 2004-2005 Secondary Road Improvement Program to the Caswell County Board of Commissioners.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Caswell County Board of Commissioners hereby unanimously approves the 2004-2005 Secondary Road Improvement Program for Caswell County as presented by the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

**ADOPTED THIS THE 5th DAY OF MAY, 2004.**

S/M. O. Battle  
M. O. Battle, Chairman  
Caswell County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

S/Wanda P. Smith  
Wanda P. Smith  
Clerk to the Board

#### APPOINTMENT TO PLANNING BOARD

Chairman Battle stated that the Appointment to the Planning Board was tabled from the Board's last meeting because the Building and Codes Subcommittee was in the process of reviewing policies and procedures for each Board. Chairman Battle added that the Committee met and came up with some recommendations for the full Board, but there were some Statutes that they had requested that the County Attorney check for them and the Board does not have the full information for consideration at this time.

Chairman Battle moved, seconded by Commissioner Hooper to table this appointment until the Board receives all information on County Boards and Commissions and the

Boards and Commissions Subcommittee will then present its recommendations to the full Board. The motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF PROPOSALS FOR HEALTH AND DENTAL INSURANCE  
FOR COUNTY EMPLOYEES FOR FY 2004-2005

Mr. Jeff Earp, County Manager, reported that for the last two years the County has had health insurance through the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners which is administered by Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Mr. Earp stated that this year Blue Cross Blue Shield has offered renewal to the County at an increase in premium of 7.9%. Mr. Earp added that this year CIGNA has offered a proposal to the County. Mr. Earp reported that with the CIGNA Option I, they propose to save the County about \$56,000 over its current year premium. Mr. Earp provided the Board with a spreadsheet showing the renewal costs for health insurance for County employees. Mr. Earp noted that he has concerns about the possibility of CIGNA buying business by giving a low premium this year and coming back with a larger than normal increase next year. Mr. Earp stated that he also has a concern about going from a Blue Cross Blue Shield Plan that is a PPO (Preferred Provider Organization) Plan to a POS (Point of Service) Plan with CIGNA. Mr. Earp added that this means that a PPO Plan allows you to go to any doctor anywhere, while a POS Plan requires that referrals be obtained to go to some doctors and approval has to be obtained before having certain treatments. Mr. Earp noted that CIGNA has a North Carolina system and a Virginia system versus Blue Cross Blue Shield having one system. Mr. Earp stated that he would like to request that the Chairman consider passing this information along to the Personnel Committee for their review and recommendation.

Mr. Earp provided the Board with a dental spreadsheet for the FORTIS Plan and AMERITAS. Mr. Earp stated that the FORTIS Plan has a 5.5% increase over last year's premium with all benefits staying the same while the AMERITAS Plan comes with a higher premium, but the benefits are paid at a much higher rate. Mr. Earp noted that this insurance is fully funded by the employee. Mr. Earp requested that the Personnel Committee also be allowed to review this information and submit their recommendation to the Board.

Mr. Earp noted that the County's current contracts will expire June 30, 2004.

Chairman Battle instructed the Personnel Committee to review both proposals and bring a recommendation back to the full Board.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Jeff Earp, County Manager, presented a request from the Parks and Recreation Department for approval of the donation of a gazebo to be used in the common area of the Caswell County Sports Complex. Mr. Earp stated that the gazebo would be donated by the Recreation Development Foundation. Upon questioning from Commissioner Hall, Mr. Earp answered that the common area is between Fields 1 and 2. After discussion, Chairman Battle moved, seconded by Commissioner Hall to approve the request for the

donation by the Recreation Development Foundation of a gazebo to be used in the common area of the Caswell County Sports Complex. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Earp presented a request from the Parks and Recreation Department for approval to purchase a lawnmower at a cost of \$5,699.20. Mr. Earp noted that the Recreation Director did obtain three bids and this is the lowest bid and would be purchased locally. Mr. Earp stated that in order to purchase this lawnmower, \$3,000 would have to be transferred from Youth and Adult Programming and transferred into the Capital Outlay account. Mr. Earp added that the remaining \$3,000 would be covered by the Recreation Development Foundation. Commissioner Lucas questioned whose responsibility it is to mow the front part of the Recreation Park. Mr. Earp answered that specifically it is the Maintenance Department's responsibility to mow, but at times the Recreation Department will assist them. Mr. Earp added that prison work farm labor has also been assisting in this mowing. After further discussion, Commissioner Hall moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to approve the request for the Recreation Department to purchase a lawnmower, with \$3,000 being transferred from Youth and Adult Programming into the Capital Outlay account. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Earp reported that the County is in the process of developing a new website and one of the new options he would like to offer is the ability to download a Caswell County application from the website. Mr. Earp stated that in order to do this, the County will have to change application forms because the County is currently using an Amsterdam Printing and Litho form printed in New York which is copyrighted. Mr. Earp noted that it would be unlawful to reprint this application without permission. Mr. Earp reported that a new employment application has been developed which is updated and requires more information than the current one. Mr. Earp stated that this would allow the County to place an electronic copy on the website that could be downloaded. Mr. Earp requested that the County approve this application as the official County application. Chairman Battle stated that there should be added to the application an area for three references to be noted. Chairman Battle added that it should be stated on the application that if the application is not filled out completely, it will not be considered. Commissioner Hall questioned why applications are sent to Wanda Smith, Clerk to the Board. Mr. Earp answered that since the County does not have a Human Resources position, Ms. Smith has been the guardian of applications. Commissioner Hall noted that the statement that Caswell County does not keep applications on file is not necessary on the application. Mr. Earp noted that Caswell County does keep a history file of applications. Commissioner Lucas asked if openings for all County positions, including full-time and part-time are advertised. Mr. Earp answered that all part-time and full-time County positions are advertised. Commissioner Lucas questioned whether Recreation Department part-time jobs are advertised. Mr. Earp stated that if they are not being currently advertised, they will be in the future. Chairman Battle stated that he thought it would be prudent for the Personnel Committee to review the proposed County application as well.

Mr. Earp presented to the Board information pertaining to the 2004 Call for Transportation Enhancement Projects. Mr. Earp stated that these funds are used for some

of the most popular cultural, aesthetic, and historical transportation projects in North Carolina, such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities, rail station rehabilitation, and scenic beautification. Mr. Earp added that there is approximately ten million dollars available and the deadline for application is June 4, 2004. Commissioner Hall stated that it seems to be an excellent program and opportunity, but he did not think that an application could be prepared in a month. Mr. Earp noted that the key to the Enhancement Program is to work in conjunction with other groups. Commissioner Hall asked if this money is going to be available every year. Mr. Earp confirmed that monies for this project would be available every year. Commissioner Hall stated that the County should be looking at a project for next year.

Mr. Earp reported that the County has completed a refunding of the outstanding 1993 Refunding General Obligation Bonds which resulted in a cumulative savings of \$130,000 or 3.73% net present value benefit over the life of the bonds. Mr. Earp stated that the bond sale is complete except for the closing which is scheduled for early May.

Mr. Earp reported that there was some concern among the Commissioners to clean up Collins Road and with the help of the Sheriff's Office, NC Department of Corrections, and NC Department of Transportation this has been accomplished. Mr. Earp stated that these agencies have picked up a total of 92 tons of garbage. Mr. Earp added that new signage has been erected on the road. Mr. Earp reported that the clean-up project was spearheaded by Sgt. Gwynn Brandon of the Sheriff's Office. Mr. Earp stated that a letter was sent to NCDOT from the Board of Commissioners requesting that they consider abandoning Collins Road and closing it as a thoroughfare to alleviate the litter problems. Mr. Earp added that NCDOT responded that they could not do this without the approval of the landowners. Mr. Earp stated that the Sheriff's Office sent another letter to NCDOT requesting that the bridge on Collins Road be closed to stop through traffic, yet still giving access up to that point for all landowners. Mr. Earp informed the Board that two landowners are agreeable to this; however, two landowners have not responded positively or at all. Mr. Earp reported that the Sheriff's Office is asking that the Board consider granting him the authority to draft a letter to the landowners asking for their consideration in closing the road as a thoroughfare. Commissioner Lucas asked if any charges have been made of those who are responsible for the dumped garbage. Mr. Earp answered that two or three charges have been made in the last few months. Mr. Earp added that the Sheriff's Office is patrolling the road. Commissioner Hooper questioned the access to Collins Road. Mr. Earp clarified that Collins Road has access from both ends and a proposal has been made from the Sheriff's Office to NCDOT that the bridge on Collins Road be taken out. Mr. Earp noted that there are four landowners on Collins Road and there is no development on either side of the bridge. Commissioner Hall stated that taking a bridge out may be a little shortsighted because it would cause limitations down the road as to what could happen. Commissioner Hall added that there are garbage dump problems throughout the County, and the Board should look at some general regulations that could do something. Commissioner Travis suggested closing the road with gates on each end that only the landowners could access. Commissioner Hooper proposed temporarily blocking off the bridge as another option. Chairman Battle suggested that the County Manager explore all options and bring them back to the Board

for further consideration. Commissioner Lucas asked if the road is being routinely patrolled on a regular schedule. Mr. Earp answered that the road is being patrolled just as a business or private home would be. Commissioner Lucas stated that if a few people are prosecuted, it may be a deterrent in the future.

Mr. Earp reported that the Health Department had made a request to the Board of Commissioners to present a four line item budget. Mr. Earp stated that the Board had asked that they go back and check with other counties to see how they handle this between the County and Health Department. Mr. Earp added that they looked at 14 surrounding counties and found that there is no correct or standard way to do this. Mr. Earp informed the Board of how some of the counties do this. Mr. Earp stated that the pros for the County by going to a four line item budget for the Health Department is the paperwork and that it will make it easier for the County Finance Office in making transfers and adjustments when it receives additional revenues, and it will make operations more efficient. Mr. Earp added that the cons are the concerns over having controls in place. Mr. Earp informed the Board that the Health Department would keep its budget for the State, but would be streamlined down to four line items for the County which would probably include Administration, Adult Health, Child Health, and Home Health. Mr. Earp stated that he discussed this with the County's auditors and they did not foresee a problem with this since the Health Department has to keep account of their entire budget along with accountability for local, state, and federal dollars. Mr. Earp added that he did not see a problem with going to the four line item budget. Commissioner Hall stated that the issue of the number of line items is no problem, but the real issue will be control, internal control, how much control the Board of Commissioners wants, and how much confidence the Board would have in the Board of Health monitoring the budget. Commissioner Hall added that there is no right or wrong, but there are best practices, and by this he means that different sources of funding should be kept separate, such as local, state, and federal funding sources.

Commissioner Lucas stated that in talking about the Health Department budget being complicated, how is it different from the Department of Social Services budget? Commissioner Lucas added that she felt that the DSS budget needed to be looked at also as far as streamlining. Commissioner Lucas asked how the discussion began concerning streamlining the Health Department's budget into four line items. Ms. Gwen Vaughn, Finance Officer, stated that the Health Department has 26 separate programs and the Department of Social Services already has its programs categorized. Commissioner Hall stated that it is important to remember that there is a difference between line items and funding sources. Commissioner Hall added that while there are those that would support grouping everything together, he personally thought as a best practice, it is important to keep funding sources separate because this is what has to be reported on specifically. Ms. Vaughn stated that going to a four line item budget would reduce quite a bit of work for the Finance Office. Commissioner Hall clarified that part of the Health Department's concern is being able to relate their books and records to the County's books and records. Commissioner Hall added that the number of budget amendments, transfers and revisions that is normally done in the Finance Office could be done at the Health Department. Mr.

Earp recommended that the Board approve the Health Department's presentation of a four line item budget with the stipulation of tracking funding sources.

Commissioner Hall recommended that the County Manager through the Finance Officer meet with the Finance Officer in the Health Department and together put in writing exactly what they are proposing. Commissioner Hall stated that he would like it to be very clear what is being proposed.

After further discussion, Commissioner Hall moved, seconded by Commissioner Hamlett to table this issue until the County Manager and County Finance Officer has the opportunity to meet with the Health Director and Health Department's Finance Officer and prepare in writing what is being proposed as far as the four line item budget for presentation at the Board's next meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Earp announced that the Board has been issued an invitation to attend Piedmont Community College's commencement exercises on May 14, 2004, at 7:00 p.m. at the Person County Campus courtyard.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Hall reported that Dr. James Owen, President, Piedmont Community College, is out sick and felt that it would be good for the Board of Commissioners to recognize him with flowers because of his excellent service.

Commissioner Hamlett reported that a sign needed to be prepared and posted when a convenience center site is not in operation. Mr. Earp stated that he would have a sign delivered to each convenience center site so that it could be posted when the convenience center site is not in operation due to equipment failure.

Commissioner Lucas distributed to the Board members copies of an excerpt from *Popular Government* concerning performance measurement in the budgeting process and stated that this is very pertinent information.

Chairman Battle thanked the Board of Commissioners, Clerk to the Board, County Manager, and County Attorney for flowers received during his recent surgery.

Chairman Battle announced that Thursday is the National Day of Prayer and added that Pearson AME Church is having a service at 7:00 p.m. and would like for a Commissioner to be present to say a prayer for the county, state, and nation. Chairman Battle noted that he would be unable to attend this and would appreciate another Commissioner attending this service.

#### CLOSED SESSION

Chairman Battle moved, seconded by Commissioner Hall that the Board enter into closed session to preserve the Attorney/Client privilege (NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3)) and to

consider the compensation, terms of appointment, and performance of an individual public officer (NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6)). The motion carried unanimously.

#### REGULAR SESSION

Chairman Battle moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to resume regular session. The motion carried unanimously.

#### MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

Chairman Battle instructed the County Manager to request that the Maintenance Director get professional advice on the ceiling paint issue of the Historic Courtroom.

#### NC DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

Commissioner Hall questioned how the County evaluates utility taxes. Commissioner Hall stated that he wanted to make sure the County is collecting the correct amount of taxes. The County Manager stated that he would check on this.

#### THE ADJOURNMENT

At 8:30 p.m. Chairman Battle moved, seconded by Commissioner Hamlett to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

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Wanda P. Smith  
Clerk to the Board

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M. O. Battle  
Chairman

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